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ECONOMIC INDICATORS, QUEENSLAND, JULY 1994

MAIN FEATURES

- The latest indicators of economic activity in Queensland signal continued growth in most sectors. Gross State Product (GSP), dwelling unit approvals, new motor vehicle registrations, tourist accommodation and demand for credit have all increased significantly. The trend estimate unemployment rate has continued to decline.
- Over the year to March quarter 1994, Queensland's GSP in trend estimate terms increased 6.5%, slightly higher than the national growth rate of 6.0%. The 2.1% rise in Queensland's GSP for both December quarter 1993 and for March quarter 1994 was the highest of all States.
- The Queensland labour market continues to show signs of improvement. The trend estimate for the unemployment rate in Queensland for June 1994 decreased for the ninth consecutive month to 9.3%. The Australian trend estimate unemployment rate for June 1994 was 9.9%. Total employed persons in trend estimate terms in Queensland increased by 3,200 persons, reaching 1.4 million persons for the month ending June 1994.
- The latest figures for the building sector in Queensland remain strong. The May 1994 trend estimate of 4,734 dwelling units approved in Queensland was 1.8% higher than the revised April 1994 figure of 4,650 approved dwelling units. This is a 7.3% increase in trend estimate terms from the May 1993 figure of 4,412 dwelling units approved.
- Total new houses commenced increased 3.1% over the year ending December 1993 and new other residential buildings (townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, etc.) increased 74.8% over the same period. The value of all building commenced increased 21.7% to \$1,124.3m.
- Demand for finance remains strong. Total housing finance for owner occupation in Queensland increased 29.6% from April 1993 to April 1994. Over the same period, total personal, commercial, and lease finance commitments increased 27.2%, 29.9% and 44.0%, respectively.
- The monthly trend estimate for total new motor vehicle registrations has continued to increase since the November 1993 low point. The trend estimate of 10,534 new motor vehicle registrations for May 1994 is 20.5% higher than that for November 1993 and 3.7% higher than the trend estimate for April 1994.
- Queensland tourist accommodation remains strong. The average room occupancy rate for hotels and motels in Queensland increased to 59.4% in March quarter 1994 compared with 56.0% in March quarter 1993. Takings from hotel and motel accommodation increased 14.1% over the same period. Similarly, the room occupancy rate for holiday flats, units and houses increased from 57.0% in March quarter 1993 to 58.8% in March quarter 1994 and takings increased 12.6% over the same period.

Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue, or to the statistical publication on the specific subject when figures are not shown.

Current publications produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) are listed in the *Catalogue of*

Publications and Products (1101.0). The ABS also issues the *Publications Advice* (1105.0) on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. Both the *Catalogue* and the *Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific publications which are listed in the May issue.

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15 July 1994

INQUIRIES

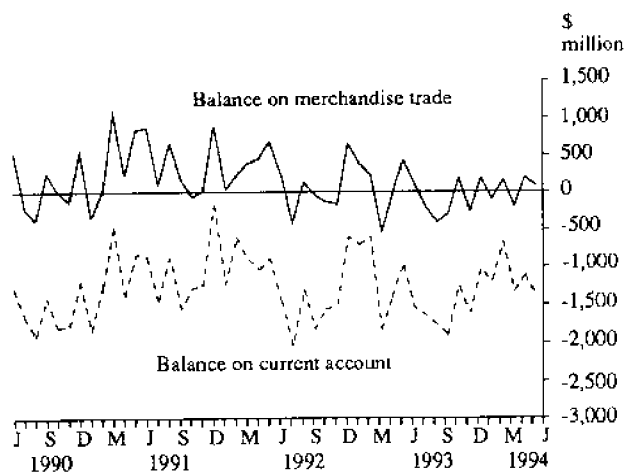
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Information Inquiries on Brisbane (07) 222 6351.
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AGGREGATE INDICATORS

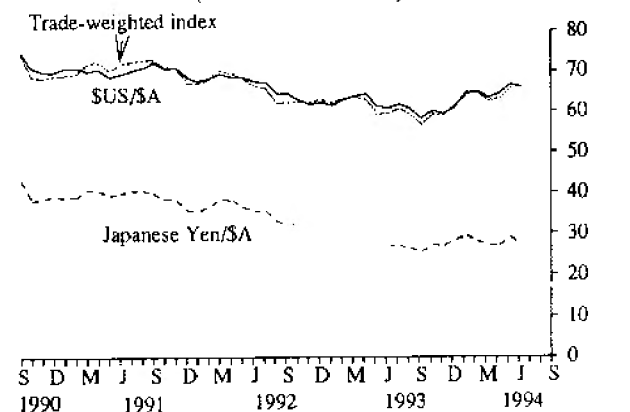
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
		1994						%
Balance of payments, Australia								
Exports	\$m	May	5,725	5,127	5,600	4,784	5,332	+7.4
Imports	\$m	May	5,640	4,925	5,796	4,617	4,913	+14.8
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	May	85	202	-196	167	419	..
Balance on goods and services	\$m	May	-124	79	-231	408	197	..
Net income and unrequited transfers	\$m	May	-1,294	-1,189	-1,099	-1,085	-1,187	..
Balance on current account	\$m	May	-1,418	-1,110	-1,330	-677	-990	..
Trade and foreign investment								
Foreign trade, <i>Queensland</i>								
Imports	\$m	May	594.4	520.6	648.4	457.1	493.8	+20.4
Exports	\$m	May	1,020.8	945.4	867.8	911.9	1,032.3	-1.1
Foreign investment in <i>Australia</i>								
Official	\$m	March qtr	2,474	4,314	2,297	5,461	-945	..
Non-official	\$m	March qtr	5,492	560	3,173	3,961	1,031	..
Export Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	April	89.8	90.9	89.4	90.9	90.9	-1.2
Import Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	April	113.1	113.3	112.9	114.4	112.3	+0.7
National accounts, <i>Australia</i> , (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure								
Private	\$m	March qtr	67,189	66,122	65,124	64,314	63,720	+5.4
Government	\$m	March qtr	19,402	18,998	18,792	18,778	18,714	+3.7
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	March qtr	20,521	20,223	20,010	20,017	20,050	+2.3
Exports of goods and services	\$m	March qtr	20,190	20,059	19,733	19,312	18,919	+6.7
Imports of goods and services	\$m	March qtr	20,466	20,523	20,313	19,896	19,483	+5.0
Gross Domestic Product (Income)	\$m	March qtr	108,350	106,731	105,164	103,649	102,180	+6.0
State accounts, <i>Queensland</i> , (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure	\$m	March qtr	14,006	13,732	13,502	13,338	13,223	+5.9
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	March qtr	3,956	3,898	3,846	3,821	3,809	+3.9
State final demand	\$m	March qtr	17,961	17,630	17,349	17,159	17,032	+5.5
Gross State Product (Income)	\$m	March qtr	17,567	17,210	16,858	16,628	16,491	+6.5
Exchange rate levels at end of period (a)								
\$US/\$A		June	0.7291	0.7361	0.7124	0.7008	0.6722	+8.5
Yen/\$A		June	72.20	76.85	72.20	72.04	71.54	+0.9
Trade-weighted index of value of \$A (Base: May 1970 = 100.0)		June	53.0	54.8	52.6	52.1	49.5	+7.1

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AUSTRALIA



MOVEMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR AGAINST SELECTED CURRENCIES AND IN THE TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX (Base: Dec. 1979=100)

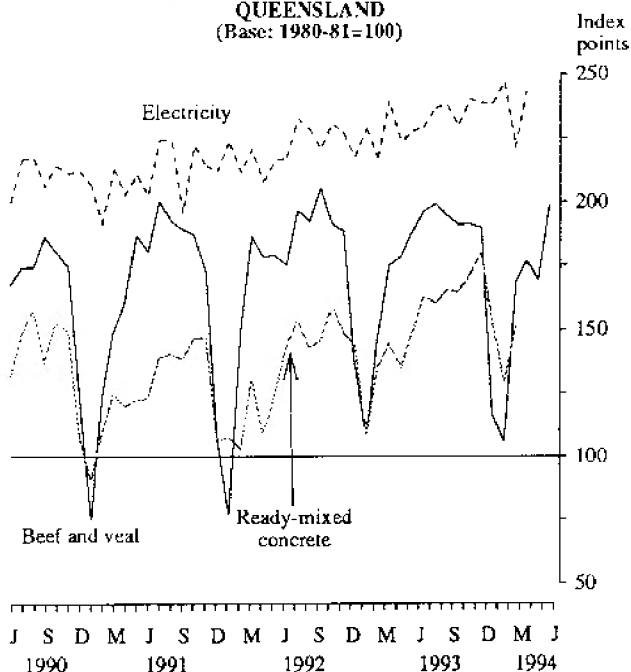


PRODUCTION

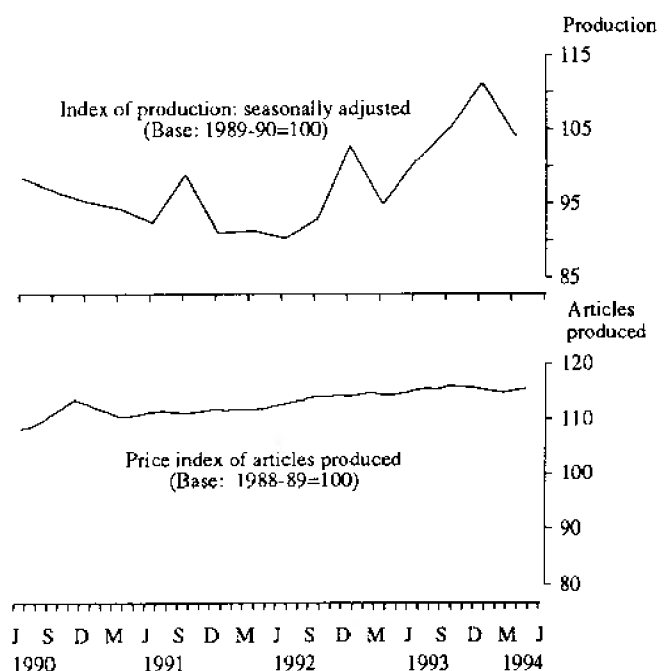
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
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		1994						%
Selected production statistics, <i>Queensland</i>								
Ready-mixed concrete	'000 cu m	February	359.0	308.2	363.0	426.7	322.2	+11.4
Black coal (saleable) (a)	'000 tonnes	March qtr	20,081	21,763	22,408	20,162	21,955	-8.5
Log timber processed (b)	'000 cu m	March qtr	454.2	418.2	454.5	410.2	371.4	+22.3
Electricity generated	m kWh	March	2,713.3	2,471.8	2,753.3	2,662.0	2,676.7	+1.4
Wheaten flour	tonnes	April	16,550	21,040	17,420	17,062	15,021	+10.2
Beef and veal	'000 tonnes	May	71.9	61.3	63.9	61.0	68.2	+5.4
Clay bricks	'000	May	27,114	26,960	30,109	28,810	27,068	+0.2
Quarterly index of manufacturing production, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	March qtr	111.0	123.3	116.0	112.8	106.6	+4.1
Chemicals, petroleum and coal products	Index No.	March qtr	113.4	115.6	111.8	103.7	104.8	+8.2
Basic metal products	Index No.	March qtr	110.2	119.8	111.2	109.5	99.1	+11.2
Transport equipment	Index No.	March qtr	102.5	101.6	104.0	96.9	83.4	+22.9
Total manufacturing	Index No.	March qtr	104.1	111.2	105.1	100.8	94.9	+9.7
Price indexes of articles produced by manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1988-89 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	April	120.9	120.8	119.7	120.3	116.5	+3.8
Basic metal products	Index No.	April	98.0	99.1	99.1	99.6	98.3	-0.3
Transport equipment	Index No.	April	119.8	119.4	119.4	119.3	117.0	+2.4
Other machinery and equipment	Index No.	April	109.8	109.8	109.9	110.0	109.8	—
All groups	Index No.	April	115.5	115.2	114.8	115.0	114.3	+1.0
Price indexes of materials used in manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1984-85 = 100.0)								
Imported	Index No.	April	127.0	127.7	128.8	130.7	129.6	-2.0
Home produced	Index No.	April	118.9	119.0	118.0	118.4	122.6	-3.0
All materials	Index No.	April	121.7	122.0	121.7	122.7	125.0	-2.6

(a) Source: Queensland Coal Board. Periods vary: March and September quarters, 12 weeks; June and December quarters, 14 weeks. (b) Source: Queensland Forestry Service.
nil or rounded to zero (including nil cells)

INDEX OF VOLUME PRODUCED: SELECTED PRODUCTS, QUEENSLAND
(Base: 1980-81=100)



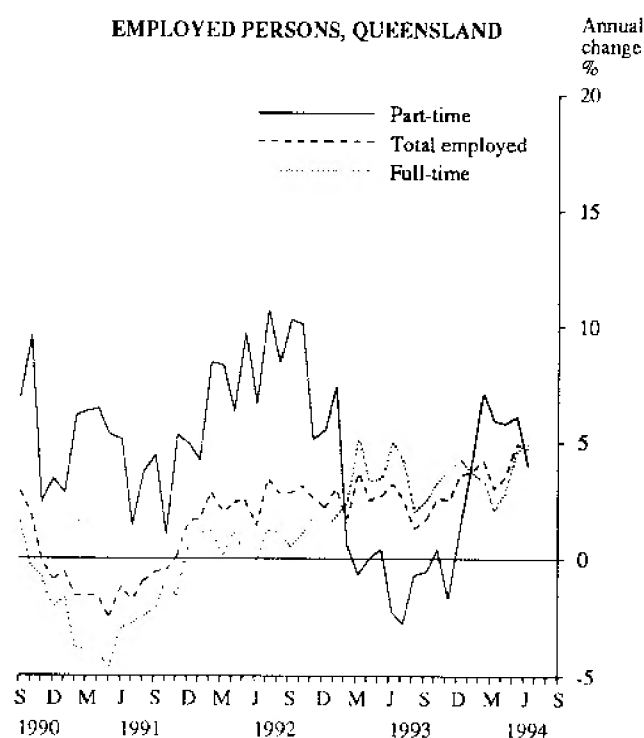
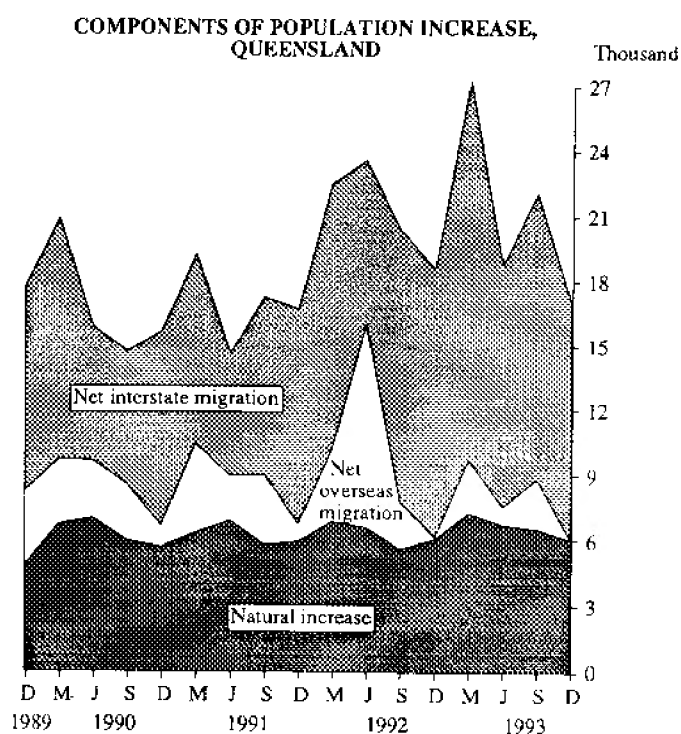
INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING, AUSTRALIA



POPULATION, VITAL AND LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND

Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
1993								
Estimated resident population at end of period	'000	Dec. qtr	3,155.4	3,138.3	3,116.2	3,099.0	3,071.7	% +2.7
Population increase during period								
Natural increase	No.	Dec. qtr	6,095	6,551	6,775	7,314	6,104	-0.1
Net estimated interstate migration	No.	Dec. qtr	11,019	13,244	11,229	17,545	12,396	-11.1
Net estimated overseas migration	No.	Dec. qtr	—	2,309	-832	2,439	-113	+100.0
Total	No.	Dec. qtr	17,114	22,104	17,172	27,298	18,387	-6.9
1994								
Short-term overseas movement								
Arrivals	'000	February	105.9	104.6	115.7	109.7	80.0	+32.3
Departures	'000	February	94.3	108.0	113.6	103.3	80.8	+16.8
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	June	2,470.0	2,464.3	2,458.7	2,453.0	2,403.5	+2.8
Persons in the labour force	'000	June	1,574.7	1,570.2	1,562.3	1,575.5	1,523.4	+3.4
Employed persons	'000	June	1,431.2	1,423.2	1,403.5	1,408.3	1,366.7	+4.7
Full-time								
Males	'000	June	744.9	734.3	723.2	721.8	716.4	+4.0
Females	'000	June	353.2	343.6	339.0	345.1	330.0	+7.0
Part-time								
Males	'000	June	86.3	89.9	88.0	90.0	80.1	+7.7
Females	'000	June	246.9	255.4	253.2	251.4	240.2	+2.8
Unemployed persons	'000	June	143.5	147.0	158.8	167.2	156.7	-8.4
Males	'000	June	82.2	84.9	94.0	96.6	97.9	-16.0
Females	'000	June	61.3	62.1	64.8	70.5	58.8	+4.3
Unemployment rate								
Males	%	June	9.0	9.3	10.4	10.6	10.9	..
Females	%	June	9.3	9.4	9.9	10.6	9.4	..
Persons	%	June	9.1	9.4	10.2	10.6	10.3	..
Persons aged 15 to 19 years	%	June	19.6	22.0	22.5	27.5	25.0	..

.. not applicable — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

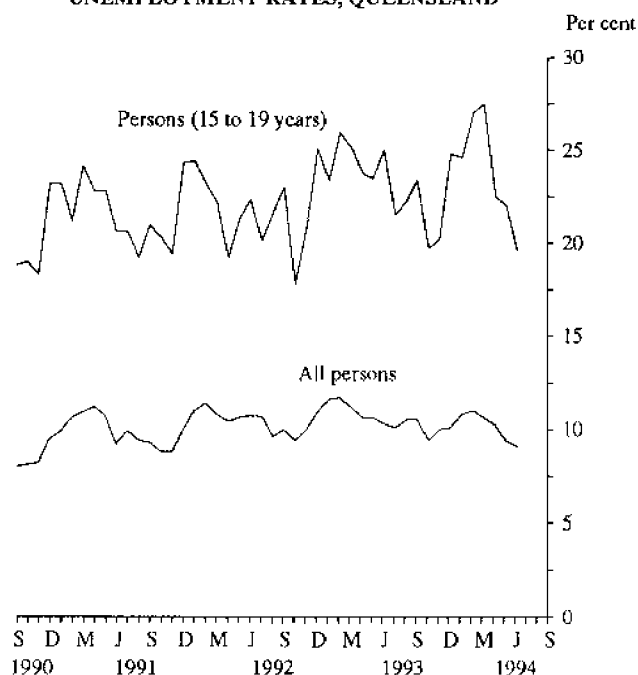


LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND—continued

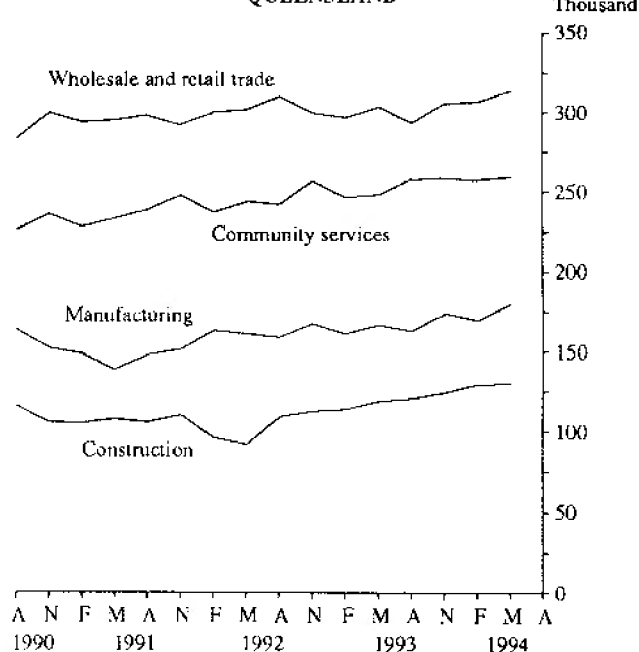
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
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		1994						%
Labour participation rate								
Males	%	June	74.7	74.5	74.4	74.8	75.2	..
Females	%	June	53.0	53.1	52.9	53.8	51.8	..
Persons	%	June	63.8	63.7	63.5	64.2	63.4	..
Industry of employed persons (a)								
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	May	82.9	78.4	86.9	82.5	80.4	+3.1
Mining	'000	May	17.3	17.3	16.2	15.1	19.0	-8.9
Manufacturing	'000	May	179.5	169.2	173.6	162.9	166.4	+7.9
Electricity, gas and water	'000	May	14.1	12.5	13.8	13.9	13.4	+5.2
Construction	'000	May	129.7	129.4	124.1	120.6	119.1	+8.9
Wholesale and retail trade	'000	May	313.6	306.8	305.4	293.3	303.5	+3.3
Transport and storage	'000	May	74.5	71.5	72.8	74.7	75.0	-0.7
Communication	'000	May	18.8	21.5	16.9	15.0	16.7	+12.6
Finance, property and business services	'000	May	152.6	149.5	136.5	128.5	130.5	+16.9
Public administration and defence	'000	May	54.2	57.5	65.2	68.5	54.8	-1.1
Community services	'000	May	258.9	257.5	258.5	257.7	248.0	+4.4
Recreation, personal and other services	'000	May	127.1	124.9	113.7	121.2	129.6	-1.9
Total	'000	May	1,423.2	1,396.0	1,383.5	1,353.7	1,356.4	+4.9
		1993						
Employed wage and salary earners								
Private	'000	December	689.6	687.8	681.0	652.1	666.3	+3.5
Government	'000	December	277.4	278.0	276.9	276.2	277.4	—
Commonwealth	'000	December	45.3	45.5	46.0	46.1	46.0	-1.5
State	'000	December	198.8	199.1	197.3	196.4	197.8	+0.5
Local	'000	December	33.3	33.4	33.5	33.6	33.6	-0.9
		1994						
Job vacancies (a)	'000	May	6.2	6.4	6.2	7.0	5.0	+23.6
Overtime, average hours per employee (a)	No.	May	1.39	0.96	1.21	1.02	1.17	+18.8
Industrial disputes: Working days lost	'000	March	19.9	11.1	0.1	5.3	10.0	..

(a) Figures collected in a quarterly survey conducted in February, May, August and November. .. not applicable — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, QUEENSLAND



EMPLOYED PERSONS BY SELECTED INDUSTRY DIVISION, QUEENSLAND

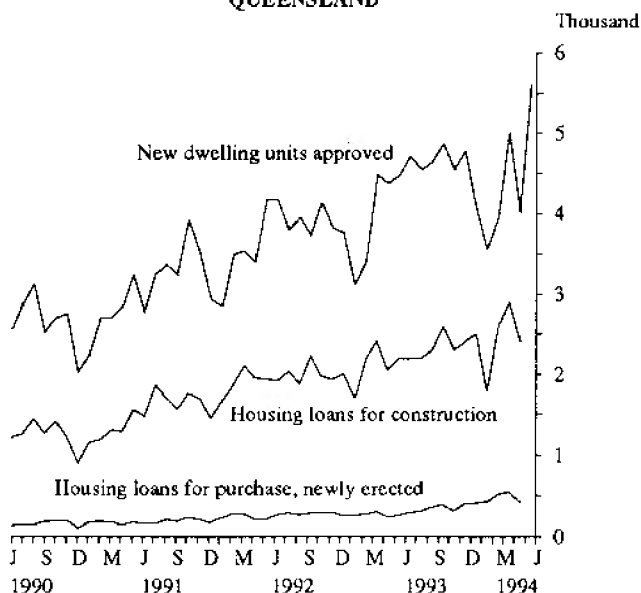


BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

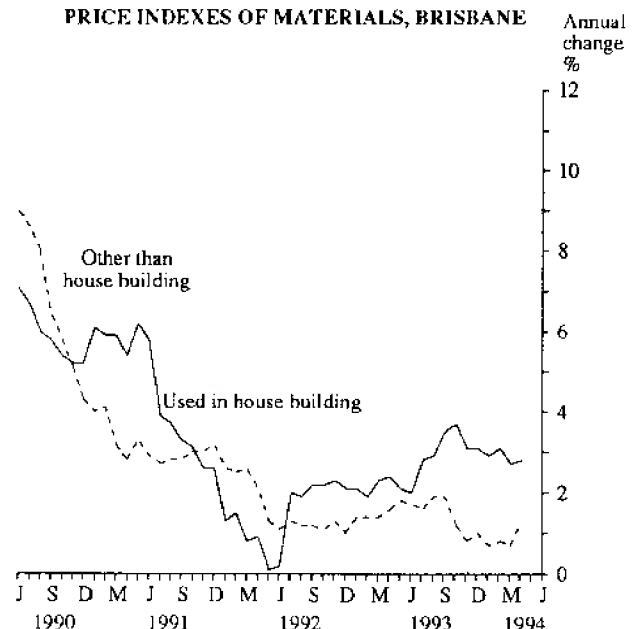
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
1994								
Selected building statistics, Queensland								
Value of all building approved	\$m	May	632.7	403.4	632.0	456.3	689.5	-8.2
Dwelling units approved								
New houses	No.	May	3,610	2,655	3,365	2,567	2,804	+28.7
New other residential buildings	No.	May	1,981	1,366	1,652	1,386	1,665	+19.0
Total dwelling units	No.	May	5,591	4,021	5,017	3,953	4,469	+25.1
Total dwelling units (trend estimate)	No.	May	4,734	4,650	4,551	4,481	4,412	+7.3
1993								
Dwelling units commenced								
New houses	No.	Dec. qtr	9,182	9,329	8,629	7,497	8,908	+3.1
New other residential buildings	No.	Dec. qtr	4,500	4,728	4,463	2,909	2,574	+74.8
Value of all building commenced	\$m	Dec. qtr	1,554.7	1,516.9	1,631.5	1,393.5	1,309.1	+18.8
1994								
Housing finance for owner occupation								
All banks	\$m	April	649.5	876.0	754.7	532.9	488.9	+32.8
Permanent building societies	\$m	April	125.2	173.4	166.0	92.0	98.1	+27.7
Other lenders	\$m	April	24.4	28.3	20.7	21.1	29.7	-17.9
Total	\$m	April	799.1	1,077.7	941.5	645.9	616.7	+29.6
Interest rates on new housing loans:								
All banks (a)	%	May	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	9.50	..
Price indexes, Brisbane								
Materials used in house building (Base: 1985-86 = 100.0)								
All groups	Index No.	April	153.2	152.4	152.8	152.2	149.0	+2.8
Materials used in building other than house building (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Ready-mixed concrete	Index No.	April	114.8	114.8	114.7	114.2	118.1	-2.8
Structural steel	Index No.	April	123.2	119.5	119.2	117.8	113.4	+8.6
All groups	Index No.	April	110.8	110.2	110.2	109.9	109.4	+1.3

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

NEW DWELLINGS AND LOANS APPROVED, QUEENSLAND



PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS, BRISBANE

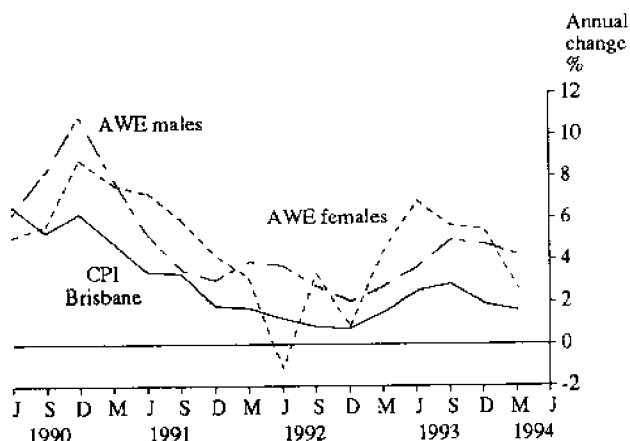


PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING

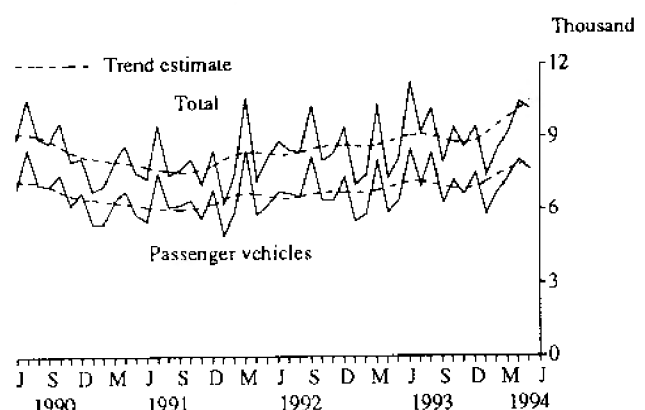
Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
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	1994						%
Consumer Price Index, Brisbane (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)							
Food	Index No.	March qtr	111.2	110.1	109.4	108.7	+1.6
Housing	Index No.	March qtr	100.1	99.8	100.4	100.5	+0.1
Transportation	Index No.	March qtr	112.0	112.3	111.8	111.4	+1.3
All groups (a)	Index No.	March qtr	110.8	110.2	109.9	109.1	+1.6
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time), Queensland (b)							
Males	\$	February	615.60	613.50	603.40	601.90	+4.2
Females	\$	February	515.80	509.70	511.90	501.40	+2.6
Index of weekly award rates of pay, Queensland (Base: June 1985 = 100.0)							
Full-time adult employees							
Males	Index No.	April	141.1	141.0	140.5	140.5	+1.5
Females	Index No.	April	142.7	142.6	141.8	141.8	+2.0
Retail trade, Queensland							
Current prices							
Original series	\$m	May	1,451.2	1,430.8	1,505.2	1,304.2	+5.3
Trend estimate	\$m	May	1,521.6	1,517.8	1,513.6	1,508.9	+6.4
Short-term accommodation, Queensland							
Licensed hotels, motels, etc. with facilities (c)							
Rooms available	'000	March qtr	40.1	40.1	40.0	40.0	+0.3
Room nights occupied	'000	March qtr	2,141	2,311	2,419	2,076	+6.3
Room occupancy rate	%	March qtr	59.4	62.6	65.7	57.1	..
Takings from accommodation	\$m	March qtr	190.6	203.4	195.5	167.3	+14.1
Self-contained units, flats and houses							
Units available	'000	March qtr	16.3	16.6	16.2	15.8	+3.3
Unit nights occupied	'000	March qtr	863	902	1,063	727	+6.4
Unit occupancy rate	%	March qtr	58.8	59.1	71.3	50.5	..
Takings from accommodation	\$m	March qtr	55.7	54.1	57.5	38.2	+12.6
New motor vehicle registrations, Queensland							
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	May	7,594	8,034	7,318	6,703	+18.6
Total (e)	No.	May	10,154	10,447	9,167	8,455	+25.0
Seasonally adjusted							
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	May	7,756	9,329	6,239	7,510	+15.2
Total (e)	No.	May	10,217	12,450	7,774	9,415	+21.6
Trend estimate							
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	May	8,057	7,829	7,622	7,383	+14.5
Total (e)	No.	May	10,534	10,158	9,811	9,445	+18.0

(a) Including also: clothing; household equipment and operation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care and recreation and education. (b) The last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the month shown. (c) From December quarter 1993, hotel, motel and guest house establishments with fewer than five rooms have been formally excluded from the scope of this statistical collection. (d) Formerly 'Cars and station wagons'. (e) Excluding motor cycles, plant, equipment and trailers. .. not applicable

PRICES AND EARNINGS, QUEENSLAND



NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, QUEENSLAND



BANKING AND FINANCE, QUEENSLAND

Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
		1994						%
All banks (a)								
Total deposits	\$m	April	30,125	30,492	30,155	30,063	27,427	+9.8
Term deposits (b)	\$m	April	13,453	13,562	13,613	13,514	12,300	+9.4
Other deposits	\$m	April	16,672	16,929	16,542	16,549	15,127	+10.2
Other lending (c)	\$m	April	35,596	35,055	34,592	34,109	29,569	+20.4
Building societies								
Lending operations								
Loans advanced	\$m	April	153.9	208.9	156.6	108.4	134.1	+14.8
Lending commitments unused	\$m	April	239.3	234.7	238.1	195.5	175.2	+36.6
Borrowing operations								
Receipts	\$m	April	1,542.2	1,828.7	1,704.5	1,520.1	1,395.1	+10.5
Withdrawals	\$m	April	1,493.3	1,708.5	1,651.3	1,491.6	1,340.2	+11.4
Personal finance commitments								
All banks	\$m	April	240.8	340.6	286.2	300.1	189.9	+26.8
Credit cooperatives	\$m	April	32.4	40.0	34.7	29.6	27.6	+17.3
Finance companies	\$m	April	88.7	100.3	83.0	86.0	64.7	+37.0
Other	\$m	April	8.2	9.6	8.1	9.5	8.7	-5.5
Total	\$m	April	370.1	490.5	412.0	425.2	291.0	+27.2
Commercial finance commitments								
All banks	\$m	April	789.5	1,010.7	789.0	591.7	591.7	+33.4
Finance companies	\$m	April	127.7	144.2	145.3	96.6	121.0	+5.6
Other	\$m	April	63.1	75.8	60.1	37.2	41.8	+50.8
Total	\$m	April	980.3	1,230.8	994.5	725.5	754.4	+29.9
Lease finance commitments	\$m	April	125.0	136.0	97.8	78.3	86.8	+44.0

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (b) Including certificates of deposit. (c) Excluding public sector securities held by banks and commercial lending through intermediaries.

